

**Report on a Survey to Update Historical Element Occurrence Records  
of Plants in Southern Illinois**

**for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Wildlife Preservation Fund**

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**Introduction**

I carried out a survey to update element occurrence records (EORs) of plants in Region V of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. An occurrence of a plant was selected for updating if it had not been checked and verified for more than 10 years.

**Materials and Methods**

Element occurrences (EOs) were surveyed by searching the locations that were provided by the Natural Heritage Database. Fieldwork was carried out in May 2007.

The identity of species was verified by using standard botanical manuals and by studying herbarium specimens at the Illinois Natural History Survey.

**Results, Discussion, and Summary**

Accompanying this report are a set of forms and photographs that document the current condition of the EOs. I surveyed 20 historical EOs and documented one additional EO. The results are summarized in the table that begins on page 2.

If I did not find a plant, I estimated the likelihood that it still is present but undetected at a site. I used these annotations:

Not present  
Probably not present  
May not be present  
May be nearby  
May be present  
Probably present

*Not present* means that I think it is safe to conclude that the species no longer occurs at the site. The other annotations indicate increasing probability, in my estimation, that the plant still occurs at or near the historical EO.

Summary of John White's surveys to update plant EORs in southern Illinois in May 2007					
Species	EO no.	County	Location	Species found?	Notes about habitat, population, threats, etc.
Carex decomposita	004	Pulaski	Cypress Slough	Found	A healthy population probably occurs in this swamp.
Carex oxylepis	007	Alexander	Provo Cemetery	Found	A healthy population occurs at this site.
Carex oxylepis	013	Alexander	Wolf Creek	Found	A healthy population occurs at this site.
Carex willdenowii	007	Johnson	Clifty Creek	Found	The species occurs here and probably is a healthy population.
Chimaphila maculata	003	Pope	Schwegman property	Not found	The species died out here several years ago.
				Not present	
Chimaphila maculata	004	Hardin	Camp Cadiz	Not found	I did not reach the actual site where the species was originally reported.
				May be present	
Clematis crispa	001	Alexander	Horseshoe Lake	Not found	I could not find the species at six former colonies around Horseshoe Lake, and I failed to find it in a general search of the surrounding land.
				May not be present	
Clematis crispa	004	Pulaski	Iron Spring Area	Not found	The habitat is growing up with thickets, making it exceedingly hard to survey, and reducing the likelihood that this sun-loving species persists here.
				May not be present	
Dichanthelium jooi	002	Union	LaRue–Pine Hills	Not found	A thorough search of the reported location failed to reveal the species.
				Probably not present	
Dodecatheon frenchii	003	Johnson	Cedar Creek	Found	There is plenty of habitat with plenty of Dodecatheon frenchii.

Species	EO no.	County	Location	Species found?	Notes about habitat, population, threats, etc.
Eryngium prostratum	001	Alexander	Horseshoe Lake	Not found	The site was too flooded to allow Eryngium to grow. The species might appear later in the season when mudflats develop.
				May be present	
Eryngium prostratum	002	Pope	Teal Pond	Not found	The habitat has grown up with woody plants, making it highly unlikely that Eryngium persists here.
				Probably not present	
Glyceria arkansana	002	Union	LaRue-Pine Hills	Found	This grass is locally abundant in LaRue Swamp.
Glyceria arkansana	New	Alexander	Clear Creek Swamp	Found	The population appears to be doing well enough to persist, though it suffers from shade suppression.
Heteranthera reniformis	002	Pope	Hamburg Spring	Not found	The site was not visited, but previous visits indicate that the species probably has died out here.
				Probably not present	
Lonicera flava	004	Jackson	Fountain Bluff	Not found	The specific location where Lonicera may have occurred does not appear to be good habitat (because of powerline disturbance). However, Fountain Bluff has plenty of potential habitat that was not searched.
				May not be present	
Melothria pendula	012	Pulaski	Iron Spring Area	Found	Five plants were found. There may be several more. Its habitat is extensive but declining because of woody succession.
Quercus montana	003	Alexander	Provo Cemetery	Found	This is a healthy population with surprisingly good reproduction.
Quercus phellos	010	Union	LaRue Swamp	Found	A single healthy tree was relocated after I first found it 38 years ago.
Schoenoplectus hallii	022	Alexander	Horseshoe Lake	Not found	The species probably is in the seed bank and could re-appear if habitat conditions become favorable.
				May be nearby	



Species	EO no.	County	Location	Species found?	Notes about habitat, population, threats, etc.
Urtica chamaedryoides	001	Alexander	Clear Creek Swamp	Found	A small population was located. More may be present in part of the area that was not accessible for surveying.